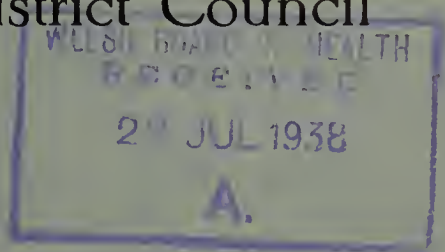


Whitehall



Mountain Ash
Urban District Council

Annual Report

of the
Medical Officer of Health

1937

ELECTRIC PRESS, ABERDARE.

Mountain Ash Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year ended Thirty-first
December, One Thousand Nine
Hundred and Thirty-Seven

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Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
OXFORD STREET,
MOUNTAIN ASH,
June, 1938.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash
Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary condition of the District, and of the work carried out by your officers of the Public Health Department, including the Tables of Vital Statistics, for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

The Report is an "Ordinary Report," and has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 1650 (Wales) of the Ministry of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the District (in acres) ...	...	...	10,504
Population, estimated 1937 (Registrar General) ...	...	...	34,070
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937 according to the Rate Books) ...	...	...	7,850
Rateable Value ...	...	...	£104,000
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	...	...	£372

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There has been a slight improvement in the position with respect to unemployment in the district, and I am informed that about 800 unemployed persons recommenced work during the year under review.

The number of persons totally unemployed on the books of the Employment Exchange at the end of the year was 2,050.

The economic condition of the district is similar to that of former years, as although there is a larger number of men at work, the wages have not improved and the standard of living of a large section of the miners must still be described as low.

The Council, during the year under review, has again done a great deal to mitigate hardship and distress by providing necessitous school children with free dinners or milk, and at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres milk and foods to necessitous mothers and infants.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

The amount of Unemployment Benefit and Unemployment Assistance Allowances paid to residents of the Mountain Ash Urban District during the year 1937 was £132,340, a decrease of £82,860 on the amount paid for this purpose during the year 1936.

I am indebted to Mr. W. Thomas, the Manager of the local Employment Exchange.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

The total amount of relief granted to persons resident in the Mountain Ash Urban District during the year 1937 was £61,998 14s. 7d., a decrease of £1,059 10s. 10d. on the amount paid for this purpose during the year 1936.

The above information was kindly supplied by Mr. T. Richards, Clerk to the Public Assistance Committee.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Live Births : Legitimate ...	538 ...	279 ...	259 ...
Illegitimate ...	16 ...	9 ...	7 ...
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...			16.2
Still-births ...	28 ...	12 ...	16 ...
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...			48.1
Deaths ...	490 ...	256 ...	234 ...
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...			14.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still-births).</i>
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil ...	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal Causes ...	1 ...	1.7
Total ...	1 ...	1.7

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	84.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	87.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	50
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	2
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	5
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	5

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 554. The number of males was 288, and of females 266. This gives a birth-rate of 16.2 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 34,070 (Registrar General) which is 0.4 lower than the rate for 1936. The birth-rate for the year is 1.3 per 1,000 higher than the rate for England and Wales, 1.3 higher than the rate for the 125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 0.9 higher than the rate for towns ranging from 25,000 to 50,000 inhabitants (Mountain Ash is placed in this group) at the Census taken in 1931.

There were 16 illegitimate children registered during the year. This is an increase of one in the number registered during the preceding year, and is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 28.8 per 1,000 births registered.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year 1937 was 47, of these 27 were males and 20 females. This gives an infantile death-rate of 84.8 per 1,000 births registered, and 1.3 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

This shews an increase of 16.7 infantile deaths per 1,000 births registered on the rate for the year 1936.

The neo-natal mortality (the number of deaths during the first months of life) was 41.5 per 1,000 births, and 48.9 per cent. of the infantile death-rate.

I append a table shewing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death-rate per 1,000 for the past 10 years:—

<i>Year.</i>	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Number of Deaths	56	61	51	47	63
Death Rate per 1,000 births ...	70.9	84.3	69.8	72.6	88.3
<i>Year.</i>	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Number of Deaths	48	46	54	40	47
Death Rate per 1,000 births ...	69.0	67.4	87.0	68.1	84.8

STILL-BIRTHS.

The number of still-births registered during the year was 28, the same number as that registered during the preceding year, and is 4.8 per cent. of the total number of births registered.

DEATHS (All Ages).

There were 413 deaths registered in the district during the year under review. Three were not residents of this area, and are to be deducted from the total. There were also 76 deaths of residents of this area which occurred in other districts, they are transferred here and added to the deaths registered locally. Four deaths, which are not included in the weekly returns of the local registrar, were

included in the list of the Registrar General, which makes the number of deaths to be credited to the district to be 490. Of this number 256 were males and 234 females.

This gives a general death-rate of 14.3 per 1,000 of the inhabitants upon an estimated population of 34,070 (Registrar General), an increase of 1.3 per 1,000 upon the rate for 1936, and is an increase of 1.4 per 1,000 upon the rate for 1935. On comparison with the death-rate for the country generally we find that the death-rate for the Mountain Ash Urban District is 1.9 higher than the death-rate for England and Wales, 1.8 higher than the death-rate for the County Boroughs and Great Towns, and that the death-rate of the district is 2.4 higher than that for the group of towns ranging between 20,000 and 50,000 at the census taken in 1931.

The seasonal mortality was as follows:—

			<i>* No. of deaths.</i>
First Quarter	...	...	135
Second Quarter	...	...	128
Third Quarter	...	...	113
Fourth Quarter	...	...	110

* See footnote to Table of Deaths (classification by age and cause).

The number of deaths ascribed to the various forms of respiratory diseases (other than tuberculosis) during the year was 51. This is an increase of 22 on the number attributed to these diseases during 1936. 35 were certified to be due to pneumonia, 14 to bronchitis, and 2 to other diseases of the respiratory organs. This is equivalent to a death-rate of 1.4 per 1,000 of the population.

16 deaths occurred during the first quarter, 15 during the second, 9 during the third, and 11 during the fourth quarter of the year.

HEART DISEASE was again the cause of death with the highest number of deaths during the year under review, 146 were ascribed to this cause. This is an increase of 15 on the number certified to be due to heart disease during the preceding year, and is equivalent to a death-rate of 4.2 per 1,000 of the population.

TUBERCULOSIS.—There were 20 deaths from tuberculosis (15 from phthisis and 5 from other forms of tuberculosis), giving a death-rate of 0.5 per 1,000 of the population.

CANCER.—50 deaths (24 males and 26 females) were certified to be due to this cause during the year. This is an increase of 4 on the number attributed to this cause during the preceding year, and is equivalent to a death-rate of 1.4 per 1,000 of the population.

CEREBRAL HAEMORRHAGE.—The number of deaths certified to be due to this cause during the year was 30 (13 males and 17 females). This is equivalent to a death-rate of 0.8 per 1,000 of the population.

MATERNAL DEATHS.—There was one maternal death during the year under review.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—The number of deaths during the year from the “seven principal zymotic diseases” was 16. This is equivalent to a zymotic death-rate of 0.4 per 1,000 of the population of the district.

VIOLENT DEATHS.—The number of deaths during the year which were due to various forms of violence (excluding suicides) was 23. Of these 13 occurred as the result of accidents in and about the coalmines.

The number of fatalities of residents of the district which were caused by vehicles on the highways was 2.

The causes of death in the various age groups and ward distribution were as set out in the following tables:—

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 4 weeks and under 3 months</i>	<i>3-6 3 months and under 6 months</i>	<i>6-9 6 months and under 9 months</i>	<i>9-12 9 months and under 12 months</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	3	1	2	—	6	2	1	1	—	10
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (All Forms)	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	3	10
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, overlying	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital Malformations	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth	6	—	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	3	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	5
Other Causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	5
Ill-defined Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTALS	18	2	3	—	23	6	9	5	4	47

DEATHS registered during the Calendar Year 1937, classified by age and cause.

13-14

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District												
	<i>All ages</i>	<i>Under One year</i>	<i>1 and under 2 years</i>	<i>2 and under 3 years</i>	<i>3 and under 4 years</i>	<i>4 and under 5 years</i>	<i>5 and under 10 years</i>	<i>10 and under 15 years</i>	<i>15 and under 20 years</i>	<i>20 and under 35 years</i>	<i>35 and under 45 years</i>	<i>45 and under 65 years</i>	<i>65 and upwards</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1 Measles	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Whooping Cough... ..	5	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Diphtheria	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 Influenza	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	11	1
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	4	—
8 G.P.I., Tables, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	—
9 Cancer	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
10 Diabetes	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	20	25
11 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	3
12 Heart Disease	142	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	11	16
13 Other Circulatory Diseases	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	3	5	52	75
14 Bronchitis	14	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2
15 Pneumonia (All Forms)	35	10	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	8
16 Other Respiratory Diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	7	6
17 Peptic Ulcer	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
18 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
19 Appendicitis	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 Other Liver Diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1
21 Other Digestive Diseases	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
22 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—
23 Other Puerperal Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	2
24 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	25	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 Senility	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26 Suicide	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
27 Other Deaths from Violence	23	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	8	3	5	3
28 Other Defined Diseases	39	7	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	2	5	15
TOTAL	486	47	10	7	1	4	5	9	6	28	34	142	193

NOTE.—The above figures are uncorrected figures, compiled from the Returns of the Local Registrar, the corrected figures (R.G.) add another 4 deaths, making a total of 490.



DEATHS, 1937.—Table according to Age, Quarter and Ward Distribution.

15-16

Ages.		W A R D S																														Total, Population 34,070 Death Rate 14.2	
		Duffryn. Population, 4,189 Death Rate, 16.2					Darranlas Population, 5,053 Death Rate, 15.8					Miskin Population, 5,181 Death Rate, 10.8					Penrhiwceiber Population, 7,651 Death Rate, 15.8					Abercynon Population, 8,275 Death Rate, 12.6					Ynysybwl Population, 3,721 Death Rate, 15.0						
		1st Q'rter	2nd Q'rter	3rd Q'rter	4th Q'rter	Total	1st Q'rter	2nd Q'rter	3rd Q'rter	4th Q'rter	Total	1st Q'rter	2nd Q'rter	3rd Q'rter	4th Q'rter	Total	1st Q'rter	2nd Q'rter	3rd Q'rter	4th Q'rter	Total	1st Q'rter	2nd Q'rter	3rd Q'rter	4th Q'rter	Total	1st Q'rter	2nd Q'rter	3rd Q'rter	4th Q'rter	Total	Total for the year.	
Under 1 year	...	1	1	2	1	5	1	2	2	2	7	—	2	2	—	4	4	3	3	5	15	—	5	—	7	12	1	1	—	2	4	47	
1 to 2 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	2	2	—	1	—	3	—	—	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	10	
2 to 3 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	3	7	
3 to 4 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
4 to 5 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	
5 to 10 years	...	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
10 to 15 years	...	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	9	
15 to 20 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	
20 to 35 years	...	2	—	1	—	3	1	—	1	1	3	1	2	—	1	4	1	4	2	2	9	1	2	2	1	6	2	—	1	—	3	28	
35 to 45 years	...	3	3	1	—	7	3	2	—	1	6	—	2	2	1	5	1	1	3	1	6	—	3	2	2	7	—	2	1	—	3	34	
45 to 65 years	...	1	4	5	5	15	6	3	6	7	22	4	1	2	3	10	17	8	11	8	44	8	12	2	9	31	5	6	5	4	20	142	
65 years and over	...	8	12	7	8	35	8	8	11	6	33	7	6	7	7	27	14	8	6	7	35	15	9	10	9	43	6	6	5	3	20	193	
TOTAL (all ages)	...	15	21	17	15	68	23	17	23	17	80	13	15	15	13	56	43	26	27	25	121	26	32	17	30	105	15	17	14	10	56	486	

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

R. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital and Medical Officer of the Maternity Hospital.

Miss ALYS M. WILLIAMS, M.B., B.Sc., B.CH., Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.

MALDWYN VAUGHAN, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), Dental Surgeon.

HARRY THOMAS JONES, Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Nuisances ; Senior Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Shops.

JOHN THOMAS WILLIAMS, Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector of Meat and other Foods ; Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Shops.

WILLIAM JAMES WATTERS, Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector of Meat and other Foods ; Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Shops.

Miss ANNE E. WOOD, R.R.C., Trained Nurse and Course in Orthopaedic Work ; Orthopaedic Nurse and Tuberculosis Nurse.

Miss ALICE WHITE, Trained Nurse ; Health Visitor and School Nurse.

Miss RUTH DAVIES, Trained Nurse ; Health Visitor and School Nurse.

Mrs. LEAH RICHARDSON, Trained Nurse ; School Nurse.

Miss MARGARET JAMES, Trained Nurse and Certificate of the Central Midwives Board ; Health Visitor and School Nurse.

*Miss MIRIAM GEORGE, Trained Nurse, Certificate of the Central Midwives Board and Health Visitors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute ; Health Visitor and School Nurse.

Miss WINIFRED JENKINS, Trained Nurse, Certificate of Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics ; School Nurse and Orthopaedic Nurse.

CHANGE IN STAFF.

*Miss Bathsheba Hoare resigned her appointment and left in December, 1936 ; Miss Miriam George was appointed, and commenced duty on 1st March, 1937.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS UNDER THE POOR LAW ACTS AND PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

Mountain Ash—A. T. JONES, Esq., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

Penrhiwceiber—W. HORGAN, Esq., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Ire.)

Abercynon—G. PIERCE, Esq., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Edin.)

Ynysybwl—IDRIS DAVIES, Esq., M.D., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The chemical analysis of samples and the examination of chemical material from this area is carried out at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. Particulars of the samples and specimens sent for examination will be found on page 57.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—A motor ambulance is provided by the Council for the removal of cases of infectious diseases (other than small-pox) and the removal of infected bedding.

SMALL-POX.—An arrangement has been made with the Aberdare Urban District Council for the removal of small-pox patients by their motor ambulance.

FOR NON-INFECTIOUS, MATERNITY AND ACCIDENT CASES.—A motor ambulance is provided by the Committee of the Mountain Ash and Penrhiwceiber General Hospital for the removal of non-infectious and surgical cases. An arrangement has also been made between the said Committee and the Council for the removal of maternity cases to and from the Maternity Hospital by the Committee's ambulance.

Motor ambulances are also kept by several of the collieries in the district for the removal of injured workmen.

Arrangements have also been made with the St. John Ambulance Association (Priory of Wales) for the use of their ambulance should it be required to remove non-infectious and surgical cases to hospitals situated in other districts.

In the event of road accidents in the Mountain Ash area an arrangement has been arrived at with the Committee of the Mountain Ash and Penrhiwceiber General Hospital for the use of their ambulance for the conveyance of injured persons either to the Mountain Ash Hospital or to their homes.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

HOME NURSING is carried out through the Mountain Ash area by the District Nurses Association, who have four nurses working in the district as follows: One at Mountain Ash, one at Penrhiwceiber, one at Abercynon, and one at Ynysybwll. They are supported by voluntary subscriptions and donations.

FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—All cases of infectious diseases are, where possible, removed to the Isolation Hospital. All cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified are visited by the Health Visitors, who give any assistance required in the treatment of the patients. The Health Visitors also visit all cases of pneumonia notified, give advice, and, where necessary, nursing assistance. Provision has also been made that when an epidemic of measles occurs the Health Visitors and School Nurses shall give nursing assistance.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.—There are five Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the area which are situated as follows:—

For Duffryn, Darranlas and Miskin Wards.—The School Clinic, Aberdare Road, Mountain Ash.

For Penrhiwceiber Ward.—Jerusalem Chapel Vestry, Penrhiwceiber Road, Penrhiwceiber.

For Matthewstown and Ynysboeth.—The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre for Ynysboeth was removed from

No. 1 Ynysboeth Villas to the New School Clinic, erected in Avondale Street, Ynysboeth, Abercynon.

For Abercynon Ward.—The School Clinic, Walter Street, Abercynon.

For Ynysybwel Ward.—The School Clinic, Trerobart School, Ynysybwel.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Duffryn, Darranlas, Miskin and Penrhiwceiber Wards.—School Clinic, near the Duffryn School, Aberdare Road, Mountain Ash.

Matthewstown and Ynysboeth.—School Clinic, Avondale Street, Ynysboeth, Abercynon.

Abercynon.—School Clinic, Walter Street, Abercynon.

Ynysybwel.—School Clinic, Thompson Street, Ynysybwel.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

The School Clinics are situated as follows :—

Mountain Ash—Near the Duffryn School, Aberdare Road, Mountain Ash.

Penrhiwceiber.—Penrhiwceiber Boys School (treatment and orthopaedic clinic only).

Ynysboeth.—The New School Clinic has been erected on the vacant land near the Ynysboeth School in Avondale Street. It has been fitted out for the treatment of scabies, dental and ophthalmic treatment, and for the treatment of minor ailments. The Clinic was opened by the Chairman of the Council, Mr. S. T. Griffiths, on 8th September, 1937.

Abercynon.—Walter Street.

Ynysybwel.—Near the Trerobart School.

All School Clinics (with the exception of Penrhiwceiber) have been fitted out for carrying out the treatment of scabies, dental and ophthalmic treatment, and for the treatment of minor ailments.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.—Orthopaedic treatment is carried out at each of the above-named Clinics.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.—A Clinic is provided and maintained by the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial for consultation and treatment of patients suffering from tuberculosis at Commercial Street, Mountain Ash.

HOSPITALS.

The Mountain Ash and Penrhiwceiber General Hospital is situated in the Duffryn Woods, Mountain Ash. An arrangement has been made between the Committee of the Hospital and the Council that children of this area who require a general anaesthetic for dental treatment and treatment for tonsils and adenoids, shall be treated at the Hospital. 151 school children and 6 infants from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres were operated upon during the year under review.

MATERNITY.—The Lady Aberdare Maternity Hospital is situated in Granville Terrace, Mountain Ash. There are three public wards, one private and one isolation ward. Accommodation has been provided for 10 beds.

The Nursing Staff consists of the Matron, four Sisters (S.R.N. and C.M.B.). The domestic staff consists of the cook, two ward-maids, between-maid, two laundresses, and a male caretaker.

The number of patients admitted to the hospital during the year was 140. This is a decrease of 11 on the number admitted during 1936. 11 patients were treated in the private ward. Of the patients admitted 48 were primiparae and 66 multiparae. The number of patients delivered was 114, of whom 96 were delivered by midwives and 18 were delivered by doctors.

Six necessitous cases were treated free of charge during the year.

26 ante-natal cases and 7 cases of albuminuria were treated at the hospital.

The abnormal cases treated were as follows :—

					<i>No. of Cases.</i>
Cardiac ... ..	...	...	...	...	6
A.P.H. ... ..	...	...	...	...	5
P.P.H. ... ..	...	...	...	...	2
Breech Presentation	...	...	...	...	5
Footling	...	...	...	...	1
<i>HAND</i> Head Presentation	...	...	...	...	1
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	2
Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	1

There was one maternal death, certified to be due to heart disease.

Two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified by doctors at the hospital. One patient was removed to Llwynypia Hospital.

Six infant deaths occurred, four were premature and debility, one congenital heart, and one cerebral hernia and spina bifida.

Eight still-births also occurred.

The average duration of stay of patients at the hospital was 14 days.

The gross cost of the hospital for the financial year 1st April, 1937, to the 31st day of March, 1938, was £1,866 9s. 5d., and the income for the same period was £362 1s. 10d.

FEVER.—The Isolation Hospital is situated on the Llanwonno Road, Mountain Ash. The accommodation (on the basis of 144 square feet per bed), is 14 beds.

The Staff consists of the Matron, two Staff Nurses, and three Probationer Nurses, and the domestic staff of a cook-general, ward-maid, between-maid, and a laundress, There is a male caretaker, who drives the motor ambulance, and also attends to the disinfection of bedding and houses.

ADMISSIONS.—The number of cases admitted and treated at the Hospital during the year was : scarlet fever, 136 ; diphtheria, 111 ; puerperal pyrexia, 7 ; erysipelas, 6 ; making a total of 260 cases treated.

The average duration of stay of each patient at the Hospital for the various diseases was : scarlet fever, 31.6 days ; diphtheria, 28.7 days ; puerperal pyrexia, 13.7 days ; and erysipelas, 9.8 days.

DEATHS.—Four deaths, three of diphtheria and one of erysipelas, occurred at the Hospital during the year.

The Hospital has been full throughout the year, and I must express my appreciation of the work carried out by the Matron and Staff during the year.

The gross cost of the Hospital for the financial year 1st April, 1937 to 31st March, 1938 was £2,340 2s. 4½d.

SMALL-POX.—In accordance with the arrangement between the Local Authorities of Aberdare, Merthyr Tydfil, Mountain Ash, Neath Rural and the County Council of Breconshire, patients suffering from small-pox are removed to and treated at the Fedw Hir Small-pox Hospital, Aberdare.

TUBERCULOSIS.—All patients in this area suffering from tuberculosis who require hospital treatment are treated at the sanatoria of the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.—The arrangements with the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, for the treatment of orthopaedic cases from this district were continued during the year under review.

HOSPITALS CONTROLLED BY THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE.—The number of persons from this area who were admitted to these Institutions for hospital relief and treatment during the year under review was 131, an increase of one on the number treated during the previous year.

Maternity and Child Welfare

DENTAL WORK.

SCHOOL CLINIC,
MOUNTAIN ASH.

To Dr. R. Llewellyn Williams, D.S.O., M.C.

DEAR SIR,—

I beg to present to you my report of the work carried out at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic during 1937.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS.—It will be noticed that there has been a steady decrease in the number of expectant mothers treated each year, and many of the cases now treated are very mild ones. It is rarely that one comes accross a bad case of pyorrhoea these days, which proves that our young mothers are interested in the question of oral hygiene.

The extensive use of cosmetics and various forms of beauty culture, now practised by the majority of the fair sex, have done much to improve their dental condition, as decayed or dirty teeth would hardly be in keeping with these practices, and therefore the teeth now receive the fair share of attention.

This, plus the school dental service, is largely responsible for the improvement in the dental condition of our young expectant mothers.

In dealing with mothers one cannot help mentioning the importance of diet in relation to their general health and that of their offspring. It is almost certain now that a diet containing plenty of milk, fresh fruits, vegetables and unrefined foods, rather than highly sophisticated dishes, does help in forming good, hard teeth, and as the deciduous teeth are formed before birth, it is important that our expectant mothers should receive adequate supplies of the above mentioned articles in their diet.

It is by this means alone that we can hope to ensure a sound dentition in our babies. In conclusion, I may add that this section of my work is progressing smoothly, and the good results of previous years are being maintained.

THE PRE-SCHOOL CHILD is a problem that I find very difficult to tackle, many of these children having a number of carious teeth at three years of age.

In the light of recent research work carried out in America, it is quite obvious that the following items should be cut out of the diet of very young children :—

- (1) Highly purified sugars, sweets, etc.
- (2) Highly refined cereals and white flour.
- (3) Canned vegetables and preserved fruits.
- (4) Eating between meals.

The above suggestions seem simple enough, yet, if practised, would result in a general improvement in the dental condition of our pre-school children.

The following is a detailed report of all work carried out :—

(1) **Number of Expectant Mothers** who received treatment during the year ... 78

(2) **Number of Operations** in which a general anaesthetic was used ... 50

Number of Operations under local anaesthesia ... 28

Total ... 156

(3) **Number of Teeth extracted—**

(a) under a general anaesthetic ... 714

(b) under a local anaesthetic ... 30

Total ... 744

(4) **Dentures.**—The following number of dentures were fitted during the year :—

Full upper dentures ... 27

Full lower dentures ... 26

Partial upper dentures ... 3

Partial lower dentures ... 3

Total ... 59

(5) **Total number of attendances** ... 150

Children of Pre-School Age :

(1) (a)	Number of children examined	...	...	35
(b)	Found to require treatment	...	...	33
(c)	Actually treated	...	...	33
(2) (a)	Number of teeth extracted under a general anaesthetic	...	...	32
(b)	Number of teeth extracted under a local anaesthetic	...	...	20
(c)	Number of teeth extracted when no anaesthetic was used	...	...	8
(3)	Number of fillings inserted	...	...	4

Yours faithfully,

M. VAUGHAN,

Dental Surgeon.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Contrary to the report on the Infant Welfare Centres it has been very noticeable that the number attending these Clinics for 1937 has shewn an increase on the figures for 1936.

There is a very important factor which is now influencing the attendances, and that is, the step taken by the Joint Council of Midwifery.

Under the National Birthday Trust Fund, Ostermilk, Colact and Yeast are sent to our Centres for distribution to the expectant mothers whom the Medical Officer thinks would benefit by such treatment and who really need extra nourishment.

If only for one reason this scheme is a very excellent one, and it is this—expectant mothers, whose husband's income falls below a certain scale, are entitled to free nourishment, but there is a very large percentage whose income is just above the required scale, but who could definitely do with such extra nourishment, and it is to this class that the Birthday Trust Scheme has proved a definite boon.

I can definitely state that the improvement in the general condition of these mothers is the most noticeable feature of our Ante-Natal Clinics.

The incidence of bad teeth is greatly lessened, our expectant mothers on the whole are clean, and it is a definite fact that the teaching of personal hygiene and care of the body is bearing fruit in this area.

BIRTH CONTROL CLINICS.

The number treated at these clinics remains about the same as the previous year. I am pleased to report that those who are treated shew definite signs of improvement in their personal condition, and especially so is such the case of the mother with a large quickly borne family, who is now given the opportunity to recover from the strain of pregnancy and subsequent confinement.

I am confident that were it not for the practice of Birth Control families would be begotten, the general condition of health of which would fall very sadly below normal and eventually our population would rapidly tend towards a C3 state.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The Infant Welfare Centres are held at the times and places mentioned hereunder :—

Mountain Ash.—The School Clinic, Aberdare Road, on Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Penrhiwceiber.—Jerusalem Chapel Vestry, on Wednesdays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.0 noon.

(The Medical Officer attends each session).

Ynysboeth.—The School Clinic, Avondale Street, on Fridays, 9.30 to 11.0 a.m.

Abercynon.—Walter Street, on Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

Ynysybwl.—The School Clinic, Thompson Street, on Mondays 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

The Health Visitors attend each session and the Medical Officer on alternate sessions.

Economic conditions in our area have improved to a certain extent during the past year, and this has had its effect on the attendances at our Infant Welfare Centres.

Comparison with 1936 shews that the attendances for 1937 are not so high, but I am of the opinion that they

could, and would be, if we could impress upon the mothers that no matter what their financial position is, the clinics are available for all and sundry who wish to seek the advice of the Medical Officer and avail themselves of the facilities offered thereat.

It is gratifying to note that Rickets, which constituted such a menace up to a few years ago, is definitely on the decrease. In fact it would be safe to say that nowadays we do not meet with the extreme form.

This is due mainly to the fact that advice given to combat this disease is seriously taken, and again to the fact that any case with a tendency to rickets is "spotted" early and treatment is advocated and started forthwith.

During 1937 we have gradually introduced a new Nestles' preparation, i.e. Lactogen, and I have found it has done a great deal towards stamping out the once popular condensed milk method of feeding which contributed largely to the incidence of rickets. This was because the mothers did not know that it was necessary to give a vitamin D product with condensed milk. Lactogen is a very easily digested food, suitable for small and premature babies, and more important still it contains these very necessary vitamins.

Our New Clinic at Ynysboeth has afforded better facilities for mothers and babies, and I am very pleased to say that the mothers are taking advantage of this very useful building.

It is with very much pleasure that I report the increase in the number of toddlers brought to the Clinics, and of the very good condition of these kiddies. This only goes to prove that if time could be given to these very important little people their chances of being healthy school children would be enhanced.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1919.

The sale of dried milk, virol, cod liver oil, emulsion, and colact was continued at the Centres during the year under review. Free grants of these products were also made to necessitous persons. All applicants for free grants have to submit full particulars of their financial position on forms provided for that purpose, and the application is granted or refused according to their circumstances.

The scale of income adopted is as follows :—

Number in family.	Scale of Income per head of family after deducting rent.	
	Free of Cost.	Half Cost.
	s. d.	s. d.
1	14 0	15 0
2	11 6	12 6
3	9 0	10 0
4	7 6	8 6
5	6 6	7 6
6 and over	6 0	7 0

All application forms are scrutinized by the Medical Officer of Health. When assistance is granted a certificate is made out stating the food, quantity and period for which it is given.

The approximate value of the food given under this Order during the year was £1,027 16s. 0d. This is a decrease of £413 19s. 7d. on the amount given during the preceding year.

The value of the food sold at the Centres during the year was £691 8s. 6d. I append a schedule shewing the quantity of food sold and given as free grants during the year :—

Quantity sold—

Ostermilk No. 1	...	...	784 tins
Ostermilk No. 2	...	...	2726 tins
Cow and Gate (Full Cream)	...	...	4202 lbs.
Cow and Gate (Half Cream)	...	...	431 lbs.
Colact	...	...	771 lbs.
Lactogen (Dried Milk)	...	...	766 lbs.
Virol	...	...	851 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	...	...	778 bottles

Supplied Free of Charge—

Ostermilk No. 1	...	...	563 lbs.
Ostermilk No. 2	...	...	3222 lbs.
Cow and Gate (Full Cream)	...	...	2586 lbs.
Cow and Gate (Half Cream)	...	...	85 lbs.
Fresh Milk	...	...	24927 pints
Colact	...	...	1672 lbs.
Lactogen (Dried Milk)	...	...	190 lbs.
Virol	...	...	506 lbs.
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	...	...	2986 bottles

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

The Mountain Ash Council do not subsidise or employ whole-time midwives on their staff.

The Council decided to pay the fees of the local midwives who attended the confinement of 17 necessitous persons who through prolonged unemployment were not entitled to maternity benefit.

The Council also decided to compensate seven midwives who had been engaged by patients, who, after being attended to by them during the ante-natal period, were removed for confinement to the Maternity Hospital. Compensation was paid at the rate of 10/- for the first four visits and 15s. for five or more visits.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

The Midwives Act, 1936, came into operation during the year under review. The Glamorgan County Council, as the Local Supervising Authority under the Act, appointed the following named midwives as full-time midwives for this area :—

Mrs. MARGARET VALE, 7 Ivor Street, Mountain Ash.

Miss NAOMI JAMES, Tanyrallt, High St., Mountain Ash

Mrs. MARY ANN KEANE, 13 Victoria Street, Miskin, Mountain Ash.

Mrs. FLORENCE SABINA WILLIAMS, 23 Harris Terrace, Penrhiwceiber.

Mrs. GWENLLIAN A. DAVIES, 4 Walter Street, Abercynon.

Mrs. OLWEN EVANS, 85 Park Street, Abercynon.

Mrs. RACHEL WILLIAMS, 8 High Street, Ynysybwl.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district other than that provided by the Public Assistance Committee.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.

I append hereunder the Health Visitors' Reports for the year :—

No. 1 District (Health Visitor, Miss A. WHITE).

<i>First Visits</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darranlas</i>	<i>Total</i>
First Quarter ...	14	22	36
Second Quarter ...	11	15	26
Third Quarter ...	15	17	32
Fourth Quarter ...	14	12	26
Total ...	54	66	120

The children visited for the first time were found to be fed as follows :

<i>Feedings</i>	<i>First Quarter</i>	<i>Second Quarter</i>	<i>Third Quarter</i>	<i>Fourth Quarter</i>	<i>Total</i>
Breast Fed ...	24	18	24	19	85
Breast Fed & Otherwise ...	...	...	1	...	1
Cow's Milk ...	...	2	4	3	9
Condensed Milk ...	...	...	...	1	1
Patent Food ...	9	5	2	4	20
Total ...	33	25	31	27	116

On re-visiting the children were found to be fed as follows :

<i>Feedings on Re-visiting</i>	<i>Breast Fed</i>	<i>Breast and Otherwise</i>	<i>Cow's Milk</i>	<i>Con-densed Milk</i>	<i>Patent Foods</i>	<i>All Foods</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Re-movals</i>	<i>Total</i>
1st Quarter	101	21	20	...	76	90	4	2	314
2nd Quarter	107	15	12	2	124	286	3	10	559
3rd Quarter	130	20	9	2	123	222	4	6	516
4th Quarter	130	40	25	3	110	230	3	5	546
Total ...	468	96	66	7	433	828	14	23	1935

Still-births ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Treatment : Ears ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
" Eyes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Infant Welfare Centre—under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	1072
Infant Welfare Centre—over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	783
No. of women at Ante-Natal Centre	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
No. of attendances at Ante-Natal Centre...	...	...	...	...	...	...	334
Home visits Ante-Natal	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Eczema ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

No. 2 District (Health Visitor, Miss RUTH DAVIES).

<i>First Visits</i>	<i>Penrhiwceiber</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Total</i>
First Quarter	30	13	43
Second Quarter	34	22	56
Third Quarter	33	20	53
Fourth Quarter	44	13	57
Total	141	68	209

The children visited for the first time were found to be fed as follows :

<i>Feedings</i>	<i>First Quarter</i>	<i>Second Quarter</i>	<i>Third Quarter</i>	<i>Fourth Quarter</i>	<i>Total</i>
Breast Fed	39	51	49	55	194
Breast Fed & Otherwise ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Cow's Milk ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Condensed Milk ... ..	...	...	1	...	1
Patent Food	1	1	...	1	3
Total	40	52	50	56	198

On re-visiting the children were found to be fed as follows :

<i>Feedings on Re-visiting</i>	<i>Breast Fed</i>	<i>Breast and Otherwise</i>	<i>Cow's Milk</i>	<i>Con-densed Milk</i>	<i>Patent Foods</i>	<i>All Foods</i>	<i>Re-Deaths movals</i>		<i>Total</i>
1st Quarter	72	34	3	6	69	185	...	11	380
2nd Quarter	78	32	5	4	63	297	5	10	494
3rd Quarter	76	26	...	6	70	379	7	15	579
4th Quarter	88	28	3	4	59	340	4	9	535
Total ...	314	120	11	20	261	1201	16	45	1988

Still-births ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infant Welfare Centre—under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	1283
Infant Welfare Centre—over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	1072
No. of women at Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
No. of attendances at Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	449
Home visits ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
Treatment : Otorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ Eyes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Sores ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ Eczema ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

No. 4 District (Health Visitor, Miss M. GEORGE).

<i>First Visits</i>	<i>Ynysybwl</i>	<i>Part Abercynon</i>	<i>Part Pen-rhiwceiber</i>	<i>Total</i>
1st Quarter... ..	10	13	10	33
2nd Quarter	10	9	5	24
3rd Quarter... ..	12	10	8	30
4th Quarter... ..	24	14	9	47
Total	56	46	32	134

The children visited for the first time were found to be fed as follows :

<i>Feedings</i>	<i>First Quarter</i>	<i>Second Quarter</i>	<i>Third Quarter</i>	<i>Fourth Quarter</i>	<i>Total</i>
Breast Fed	18	25	29	34	106
Breast Fed & Otherwise	2	1	...	4	7
Cow's Milk	1	...	...	...	1
Condensed Milk	7	1	1	2	11
Patent Food	2	1	2	4	9
Total	30	28	32	44	134

On re-visiting the children were found to be fed as follows :

<i>Feedings on Re-visiting</i>	<i>Breast Fed</i>	<i>Breast and Otherwise</i>	<i>Cow's Milk</i>	<i>Con-densed Milk</i>	<i>Patent Foods</i>	<i>All Foods</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Re-movals</i>	<i>Total</i>
1st Quarter	10	5	...	6	15	84	3	20	143
2nd Quarter	78	15	...	12	76	286	3	17	487
3rd Quarter	45	8	...	22	52	205	1	9	342
4th Quarter	89	32	6	17	65	249	7	5	470
Total	222	60	6	57	208	824	14	51	1442

Still-births ... ..	...	9
Pneumonia ... ..	...	9
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	1
Infant Welfare Centre—No. of visits	...	1576
No. of women at Ante-Natal Clinic	...	93
No. of attendances at Ante-Natal Clinic	...	302
Home visits ... ..	...	109
Treatment : Conjunctivitis	...	1
„ Blepharitis	...	1
„ Ottorrhoea	...	3
„ Sores of body	...	3
„ Sores of scalp	...	3

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION. Children's Act, 1908.

The four Health Visitors have been appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors under the above Act. There were no new registrations of infants or foster-parents during the year. No contravention of Part I. of the Act was reported during the year.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

The children of this area who require hospital treatment are sent to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, where they are treated by Mr. J. Berry Haycraft, M.C., who is also the Consulting Surgeon for this district. He has visited our Clinic three times during the year, and on each occasion examined a number of children suffering from physical defects and deformities.

The Health Visitors are instructed to report upon all physically defective children and those suffering from rickets who come under their notice. The parents of these children are afterwards told to bring them to the Clinic for examination, and when treatment is necessary, are advised as to the course to be adopted.

The home treatment of children who require orthopaedic treatment is carried out by Miss A. E. Wood. I append her report on the work she has carried out during the year :—

THE SCHOOL CLINIC,
MOUNTAIN ASH,
March, 1938.

*To Dr. R. Llewellyn Williams, D.S.O., M.C.,
Medical Officer of Health.*

DEAR SIR,—

I beg to submit to you the Thirteenth Annual Report on Orthopaedic Work for the year ending December 31st, 1937. During the year there were one hundred and eleven children under treatment and observation.

January 1st, 1937 : Number of children	...	60
New Cases	...	49
Returned to District	...	2
		<hr/> 111

Transferred to Education Committee	...	...	8
Left the District	...	...	2
Referred to Baby Clinic	...	...	1
Cured	...	...	15
Deceased	...	...	1
			<hr/> 27
Total number of Children December 31st, 1937	...		84

Mr. J. Berry Haycraft, M.C., visited the Clinic on April 19th when he saw 16 children, on October 18th when 17 children were seen, and December 13th 21 children were seen.

Four children were seen at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff.

Five children were admitted to Hospital, 6 children were discharged from Hospital having been treated there for three years, 9 months, 6 months, 5 months and two for 1 month.

The Committee supplied 3 pairs of boots with alterations to same, alterations to 1 pair of boots, and repairs to 3 pairs of boots.

Clinics were held at Mountain Ash and Abercynon two sessions per week, Penrhiwceiber, Ynysboeth and Ynysybwl one session per week.

98 children were seen at the Clinics of whom 70 received treatment, 8 received treatment in their homes.

Number of treatments given at Clinic and homes, 798.

Number of visits paid to homes, 203.

TABLE I.—*Diseases.*

1	Congenital absence of ulna
1	Congenital amputation of fingers
1	Curvature of spine
1	Dislocation of hip
6	Deformed toes
1	Fractured arm
1	Hare-lip and cleft palate
1	Imbecile
10	Pronated feet
73	Rickets
1	Spina bifida
1	Spastic quadriplegia
9	Talipes
2	Tubercular disease of hip
1	Undefined
1	Torticollis

TABLE II.—*Treatment.*

2	Altered boots
4	Altered boots and massage
1	Caliper
1	Collar
5	Irons
1	Iron and Massage
4	Manipulation
39	Manipulation and massage
8	Manipulation and strapping
28	Observation
19	Massage
7	Hospital

Eighteen of the children under observation had previously received treatment, 4 nothing to be done, 2 parents refused treatment. Two children were removed from Hospital against the surgeon's advice.

Report on Tuberculosis Work.

During the year one hundred and forty-eight cases were visited: 138 adults and 10 children of school age.

138 Adults.

95 Cases of Phthisis, of these 12 are able to work, 29 attend Tuberculosis Clinic, 6 doctor attending, 6 attend doctor regularly, 8 see doctor occasionally, 9 in hospital, 1 left district, 6 deceased.

1 Heel, working.

4 Hip, 2 working, 1 attends Clinic, 1 in hospital.

1 Rib, working.

1 Lupus of Nose, out-patient at hospital.

2 Kidney, 1 doing housework, 1 out-patient at hospital.

2 Knee, 1 doing housework, 1 recently discharged from hospital.

1 Knee and Elbow, wears artificial leg and attends Clinic.

2 Wrists, 1 does housework, 1 attends Clinic.

2 Elbow, both working.

- 12 Spine**, 4 working, 1 sees doctor occasionally, 4 attend Clinic, 2 advised to attend Clinic, 1 in hospital.
- 3 Peritoneum**, 1 sees doctor occasionally, 1 attends Clinic, 1 in hospital.
- 2 Glands of Groin**, 1 attends Clinic, 1 able to work.
- 9 Glands of Neck**, 6 able to work, 1 attends Clinic, 1 under treatment of doctor, 1 awaiting admission to hospital.

During the year eleven of the cases visited had received hospital treatment, and three refused to go to hospital.

10 Children of School Age.

- 3 Cases of Phthisis**, 1 in hospital, 1 attends Clinic, 1 in school.
- 1 Foot**, attends school.
- 1 Ankle**, attends school.
- 1 Knee**, attends school.
- 3 Hip**, 2 in hospital, 1 doctor attending
- 1 Spine**, doctor attending.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ANNE E. WOOD.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

WATER SUPPLY.

A continuous supply of water was provided from January until the 5th October when, in view of the exceptional drought experienced, it was found necessary to restrict the supply to between the hours of 7.0 a.m. and 7.0 p.m. daily. On 18th October it was further restricted to between the hours of 9.0 a.m. to 5.0 p.m.

The spring that ten houses at Pontcynon depended upon for their water supply failed to function during the month of July, and notices were served upon the owners to provide a proper supply by connecting to the Council's mains. The notices were complied with, so that with the exception of a few houses and farms in outlying parts of the district, all houses are now connected to the Council's water mains.

Samples for chemical and bacteriological examination were taken periodically and sent to the Analyst. The results were satisfactory. I append copies of his reports :—

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE OF WATER.

Collected on March 3rd, 1937, by Dr. R. LL. WILLIAMS, Mountain Ash.
Labelled : Tap, Abercynon.

Number of Sample	...	...	...	3792
Date of Analysis	...	...	...	March 4th—8th
Appearance in two-foot tube	...	...	...	Pale Green, Clear.
Reaction	...	...	...	Faintly acid, PH = 6.0
Total Hardness	...	...	...	2.4
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	—
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	—
Chlorine	...	...	...	1.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	—
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	...	...	...	—
Saline (or "Free") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0008
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0022
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	—
Nitrites	...	...	...	—
Phosphates	...	...	...	—
Sulphates	...	...	...	—
Microscopic Examination of the				Small amount, brown vegetable
Sediment	...	...	...	debris, diatoms. Animate
Volume of sediment	...	...	...	forms rare.
				.20

Remarks.—A soft water. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamination.

8th March, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Submitted by Dr. R. LL. WILLIAMS, Mountain Ash.

Lab. Ref. : 3791. Date received : 3/3/37.

Description of Sample : Tap, 4 Edward Street, Abercynon.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37 C—8.

Bacilli Coli absent from 50 m.l.

Remarks.—Satisfactory.

5th March, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE OF WATER.

Collected on June 21st, 1937, by Inspector H. T. JONES.

Labelled: Tap, Town Hall, Mountain Ash.

Number of Sample	...	...	...	10,349
Date of Analysis	...	...	...	June 22nd—23rd
Appearance in two-foot tube	...	...	...	Very Pale Green, Clear
Reaction	...	...	...	Faintly Alkaline, PH—7.2
Total Hardness	...	...	...	6.6
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	—
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	—
Chlorine	...	...	...	1.1
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	...	...	...	—
Saline (or "Free") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0010
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0020
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites	...	...	...	—
Phosphates	...	...	...	—
Sulphates	...	...	...	—
Microscopic Examination of the	...	...	...	Small amount vegetable cells
Sediment	...	...	...	and debris. Animate forms
Volume of Sediment	...	...	...	rare. .10

Remarks.—A fairly soft water. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamination.

24th June, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Submitted by Dr. R. LL. WILLIAMS, Mountain Ash.

Lab. Ref.: 10,348. Date received: 21/6/37.

Description of Sample: Tap, Town Hall, Mountain Ash.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37 C: 6

Bacilli Coli present in 50 m.l.

Bacilli Coli absent from 10 m.l. or smaller amounts.

Remarks.—Fairly satisfactory.

24th June, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE OF WATER.

Collected on Sept. 9th, 1937, by Dr. R. LL. WILLIAMS, Mountain Ash.
Labelled : Tap, New Road, Ynysybwł.

Number of Sample	...	...	...	14,810
Date of Analysis	...	...	...	September 10th—13th
Appearance in two-foot tube	...	...	...	Pale Green, Clear.
Reaction	...	...	...	Neutral, PH—6.0
Total Hardness	...	...	...	4.6
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	—
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	—
Chlorine	...	...	...	1.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	...	...	...	—
Saline (or "Free") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0016
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0032
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites	...	...	...	—
Phosphates	...	...	...	—
Sulphates	...	...	...	—
Microscopic Examination of the Sediment	...	...	...	Small amount. Vegetable cells debris. Animate forms rare.
Volume of Sediment	...	...	...	.20

Parts per 100,000

Remarks.—A fairly soft water. The chemical and microscopical characters are satisfactory.

13th September, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Submitted by Dr. R. LL. WILLIAMS, Mountain Ash.

Lab. Ref. : 14,809. Date received : 9th September, 1937.

Description of Sample : Tap, 91 New Road, Ynysybwł.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37 C : 6.

Bacilli Coli present in 50 m.l.

Bacilli Coli absent from 10 m.l. and smaller amounts.

Remarks.—Satisfactory.

14th September, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE OF WATER.

Collected on December 22nd, 1937, by H. T. JONES, Esq., Mountain Ash.

Labelled : Tap, Surgery, Windsor Place, Ynysybwll.

Number of Sample	...	...	...	22,440
Date of Analysis	...	...	...	December 22nd, 28th
Appearance in two-foot tube	...	...	...	Pale Green, Clear.
Reaction	...	...	...	Faintly Acid, PH—6.2
Total Hardness	...	...	...	2.8
(a) Temporary	...	...	...	—
(b) Permanent	...	...	...	—
Chlorine	...	...	...	.9
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	...	...	...	—
Saline (or "Free") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0008
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia	...	...	...	.0016
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	Nil
Nitrites	...	...	...	—
Phosphates	...	...	...	—
Sulphates	...	...	...	—
Microscopic Examination of the	...	...	...	Small amount, brown vegetable
Sediment	...	...	...	debris. A few filaments.
Volume of Sediment	...	...	...	Animate forms rare.
				.2

Parts per 100,000

Remarks.—A soft water. The chemical and microscopical examination show no evidence of any organic pollution.

December, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY,
INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE,
THE PARADE, CARDIFF.

REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Submitted by H. T. JONES, Esq., Mountain Ash.

Lab. Ref. : 22,439. Date received : 22/12/37.

Description of Sample : Tap, Surgery, Windsor Place, Ynysybwll.

Bacteria developing per m.l. at 37 C : 10 p.m.l.

Bacilli Coli present in 50 m.l.

Bacilli Coli absent from 10 m.l.'s or smaller amounts.

Remarks.—Satisfactory. Examination for Diphtheria bacilli :
Negative.

29th December, 1937.

(Signed) JOHN H. SUGDEN.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Sewers have been laid throughout the district. With the exception of farmhouses and a few houses in outlying parts of the district, all houses are drained and connected to the sewers.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Cynon has been badly polluted during the year. A complaint was made to the Glamorgan County Council with the result that an investigation was made. The following extract from the December, 1937, Quarterly Report of Dr. E. Colston Williams, the M.O.H. for Glamorgan, shews the progress of the investigation and the result :—

“ A survey of the river revealed that the river bed was in parts badly silted up, and the width of the course very much reduced. It was found that the chief sources of the trouble were the effluents from the Washery and the Power Station at Middle Duffryn, owned by the Powell Duffryn Associated Collieries, Ltd. This was confirmed by the results of the samples taken of the river and the effluents. The Company officials were interviewed on two occasions, and the results of these conversations are as follows :—

“ **POWER STATION.**—Several years ago complaints were made by the Aberdare Urban District Council regarding the excessive discharge of grit from the works' chimneys. This trouble was ended by the introduction of water sprays at the chimney base to trap the grit, and the effluent from the station is the arrested grit and the draining water from the sprays.

“ The Company's Engineer has now a scheme in hand to erect dual pumps and a pipe line to take the effluent across the river to large settling tanks before it is finally allowed to enter the river.

“ This is to be proceeded with immediately, and it is anticipated will be working satisfactorily by next March.

“ **WASHERY.**—I was told that in 1932 an ‘ Aspirator ’ Plant was installed at these Washeries and that it recovers

approximately 200 tons daily of dust, a large proportion of which previously went into the river.

"A promise was received that an expert would be engaged immediately to conduct a thorough investigation into all the Company's Washeries with a view to the promotion of schemes to recover the maximum of dust, and to lessen the nuisance.

"Such an investigation voluntarily undertaken by such an important Company as the Powell Duffryn Associated Collieries should be very valuable, and will, I hope, contribute towards the solving of one of our most difficult problems of river pollution.

"During my investigations I also found that a considerable quantity of fine dust was being tipped direct on to the river bank in the vicinity of Ynysboeth Uchaf Farm at Penrhiwceiber. The Colliery Company was communicated with, and it was immediately stopped."

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The removal of house refuse is carried out by contractors. All carts and lorries engaged in the conveyance of refuse have been provided with proper covers. A time-table has been drawn out for each ward, and the contractors are expected to clear the streets in accordance with the times set out. House refuse is removed daily in the Ynysybwl and Abercynon Wards, and on alternate days in the Penrhiwceiber, Miskin, Darranlas and Duffryn Wards.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Houses and premises inspected and re-visited...	... 3960
---	----------

Number of Notices served under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875, and Section 93 Public Health Act, 1936
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	426
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	352
(c) Letters sent by Clerk to defaulters...	...	...	...	...	79

General Repairs to—

Chimneys and fireplaces	...	...	...	307
Roofs	...	...	...	242
Eaves gutters and downpipes	...	...	...	236
External walls	...	...	...	139
Windows	...	...	...	206
Internal walls, partitions, etc.	...	...	...	234
Floors	...	...	...	153
Yards	...	...	...	219
Dry areas provided	...	...	...	30
Boundary walls	...	...	...	52
Pantries	...	...	...	68
Washhouses and Coalhouses	...	...	...	52
Dirty premises	...	...	...	12

Drainage—

Renewed and relaid	...	...	...	188
Drains tested	...	...	...	217
Cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	9
Washup sinks provided and repaired	...	...	...	30

Sanitary Conveniences—

New conveniences provided	...	...	...	4
Repairs to fittings	...	...	...	164
Provision of flush tanks	...	...	...	62
Repairs to water services	...	...	...	57

Insanitary stables	...	...	...	4
Fowls cots removed	...	...	...	2
Quarries fenced	...	...	...	3

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Number of Bakehouses on Register	...	...	...	15
Number of Workshops on Register	...	...	...	56
Number of visits	...	...	...	177

Nuisances under the Public Health Act.

				<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	5	5
Other nuisances	...	...	...	2	2

Milk and Dairies Orders.

Number of Cowsheds on Register	...	...	...	36
Number of Retailers on Register	...	...	...	61
Number of Cowsheds up to standard	...	...	...	32
Number of visits	...	...	...	225
Number of samples of Milk taken	...	...	...	40

Fish Fryers.

Number in district	...	...	...	...	25
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	96

Ice Cream Dealers.

Number in district	...	...	...	...	27
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	108

Infectious Diseases.

Number of cases visited :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	240
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	193
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	25

List of Bedding, etc., Disinfected.

Beds	...	...	...	...	...	368
Pillows and Bolsters	...	...	...	...	...	673
Blankets	...	...	...	...	...	2096
Quilts	...	...	...	...	...	135
Sheets	...	...	...	...	...	114
Other Articles	...	...	...	...	...	212

Housing Act, 1936.—Overcrowding. Schedule of Cases.

	1936	1937	<i>Number of families dwelling therein.</i>	<i>Number of persons dwelling therein.</i>	<i>Cases of over-crowding relieved.</i>	<i>Number of persons dwelling therein.</i>
Abercynon	... 32	13	16	128	19	204
Duffryn	... 14	10	15	84	4	33
Darranlas	... 8	2	3	18	6	40
Miskin	... 6	2	2	18	4	42
Penrhiwceiber	... 22	2	2	19	20	264
Ynysybwl	... 36	20	33	204	16	216

Shops Act, 1912.

Number of Shops on Register	...	...	...	620
Number of visits	...	...	...	1420

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Three summonses were issued to enforce the abatement of nuisances and three summonses to enforce the provision of flushing apparatus under the Bye-laws. The cases were adjourned to give the owners an opportunity to carry out the work. The summonses were then withdrawn on payment of costs.

SWIMMING BATH.

I mentioned in my Annual Report for 1937 that the Council were constructing a Public Swimming Bath at the Gwernifor Grounds. The bath is an open-air swimming pool, and was opened on 10th May, 1937. The cost of construction was £5,200, and a grant of 90 per cent. was received from the Commission for Special Areas.

The water area of the pool is 3,600 sq. ft., and the capacity 150,000 gallons. Water is supplied from the Council's water mains, and the total capacity of the pool passes through an efficient Water Purification Plant every six hours.

During the bathing season, 1st May to 30th September, 1937, 9,892 adult bathers and 31,774 children of school age used the pool, and there were 11,080 spectators admitted.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No Council Houses were found to be infested. Six other houses were found to be infested and were disinfected by spraying with an insecticide called Germicide. The work was carried out by the Local Authority.

SCHOOLS.

The elementary schools of the area were found to be kept clean and their sanitary condition to be fairly satisfactory. There is a plentiful supply of water as the Council's mains are laid on to all schools.

The provision of the Memorandum on "Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1927," for preventing the spread of infectious disease among school children are adhered to, and printed instructions are issued to all Head Teachers, specifying the incubation periods and periods of the exclusion of patients and contacts of infectious disease.

HOUSING.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	940
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3960
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	940
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	940
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	540

2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	230
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year—

(a) <i>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners... ..	—
(b) <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts :</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	540
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	220
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners... ..	—
(c) <i>Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

(d) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms
in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... | — |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms
in respect of which Closing Orders were determined
the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... | — |

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the
year | 49 |
| (ii.) Number of families dwelling therein | 71 |
| (iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein | 471 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during
the year | — |
| (c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during
the year | 69 |
| (ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 799 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have
again become overcrowded after the Local Authority
have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | — |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding
conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health
may consider it desirable to report | — |

Inspection and Supervision of Food

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (Consolidated) ACT, 1915. THE MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

All farms and dairies have been inspected periodically during the year.

The number of persons registered as engaged in the production and distribution of milk is 76. Of these 39 are registered as cowkeepers, and of this number 27 retail their own milk and are also registered as purveyors of milk.

There are also 37 persons registered as purveyors of milk, 10 of whom reside outside the district.

30 samples of ungraded milk (22 taken by the Sanitary Inspector and 8 by the Police) were taken during the year and sent to the laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

The following is a summary of the bacterial count :—

UNGRADED MILK.—Bacteria present per m.l.

Samples taken by	Under 5000	5000 to 10000	10000 to 20000	20000 to 50000	50000 to 100000	100000 to 200000	200000 to 250000	250000 to 280000	280000 to 600000	600000 to 1000000	1000000 and over
Public Health Dept.	—	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
County Police	3	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	—

The result of the Methylene Blue Reduction Test was as follows :—

13 samples were found to be satisfactory, and 17 samples were found to be unsatisfactory.

The bacillus coli was absent from 11 samples.

The presence of the bacillus coli in the remainder of the samples was as follows :—

Bacillus Coli present in :

1 M.L.	1/10 M.L.	1/100 M.L.	1/1000 M.L.
6	6	5	2

12 samples of milk were taken and examined for tubercle bacilli. One sample, taken from a local farm, was found

to contain tubercle bacilli. The result was communicated by the County M.O.H. to the Chief County Veterinary Inspector, who examined the cows at the farm affected. The diseased cow was detected, taken away, slaughtered, and destroyed.

THE MILK SPECIAL DESIGNATION ORDER, 1923.

Pasteurized milk is the only milk sold under the above-mentioned Order in the district. 10 licences were issued during the year to sell pasteurized milk.

All milk supplied to mal-nourished school children of this area at the schools is of this quality.

Six samples of pasteurized milk were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination.

The following is a summary of the bacterial count :—

<i>Number of Bacteria per M.L.</i>			<i>No. of Sample.</i>	
Under 5000	2
Between 5000 and 10000	1
Between 10000 and 20000	2
Between 20000 and 30000	1

The bacillus coli was absent from three samples, and was present in 1/10 M.L. in three samples.

The schedule hereunder shews the quality and source of supply of the ungraded milk sampled :—

<i>Classification.</i>	<i>Source of Supply.</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Local</i>	<i>Outside the Area</i>	
Satisfactory ...	11	4	15
Unsatisfactory ...	7	8	15
	18	12	30

In each case where the local milk was unsatisfactory the retailers or producers were interviewed and instructed as to improved methods of handling milk. Where the samples of milk taken and found to be unsatisfactory were produced in other areas, copies of the Analyst's reports were sent to the M.O.H.'s of those districts.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924.

The inspection of meat and supervision necessary to ensure that the above-mentioned Regulations are complied with is carried out by Messrs. J. T. Williams and W. J. Watters, Sanitary Inspectors.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are five licensed slaughter houses in the district. The slaughter house at Cemetery Road, Abercynon, has not been in use during the year. The number of visits paid by the Inspectors to the slaughter houses during the year was 924.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The particulars of meat inspection are as follows:—

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<i>Cattle, excluding cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known)	507	...	107	4904	1529
Number inspected ...	507	...	107	4904	1529
All diseases, except Tuberculosis— Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	1	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	219	...	...	1229	37
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	43.1	...	...	25.0	2.5
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses condemned	5	...	...	...	18
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	49	...	...	...	68
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10.6	...	...	...	5.6

The following shews the weight of meat found upon inspection to be diseased and unfit for human consumption. It was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed by burial at the refuse tips:—

	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>			
Beef	3578
Pork	2133
Mutton	42
Lungs and Livers	8407
				<hr/>
				14,160

SHOPS AND VEHICLES.

All shops where meat is sold and prepared for sale were inspected during the year. No cause for complaint was found. Motor lorries, vans and covered carts used for the transportation and sale of meat were also kept under observation.

ADULTERATION.

The Glamorgan County Council is the Local Authority for enforcing the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. Superintendent T. Davies, Aberdare, who is the Inspector appointed to carry out various duties under the Act in the Mountain Ash Urban District, has kindly supplied me with a table (a copy of which is appended) shewing the nature and number of samples taken during the year in the district, and the results of analysis:—

FOOD AND DRUGS (Adulteration) ACT, 1928.

55-56

Samples taken under the above Act in the Area of the Mountain Ash Urban District Council during the year 1937.

<i>Description of Sample.</i>	WHERE SAMPLES WERE TAKEN.									TOTAL
	<i>Mountain Ash</i>	<i>Penrhiw-ceiber</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Newtown</i>	<i>Abercynon</i>	<i>Ynysybwl</i>	<i>Carne-town</i>	<i>Glancynon</i>	<i>Ynysboeth</i>	
Milk	18	5	2	1	13	7	—	1	1	48
Pasteurised Milk ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Beer	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Butter	4	1	—	—	5	2	—	—	1	13
Margarine	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	7
Lard	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	7
Malt Vinegar	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Baking Powder	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cream	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Beef Suet	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Table Jelly	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Baked Beans	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Boiled Sweets	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Flour	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Raw Cream	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pearl Barley	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rice	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Custard Powder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Raw Cream	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Katsup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Egg Substitute	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Mustard	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Draught Cider	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tapioca	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tea	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Liquorice Allsorts	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Christmas Pudding	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Shredded Beef Suet	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Candied Peel	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	42	9	4	2	30	13	—	1	9	110

All Samples were certified to be genuine, with the exception of one, sample of Milk which contained added water to the extent of 18 per cent.

TOM DAVIES, *Superintendent,*
Sampling Officer under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration Act).



Laboratory Work

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Arrangements have been made with the Glamorgan County Council for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

All medical practitioners in the district have been informed that outfits for the collection and transmission of specimens are always kept in readiness at the Public Health Offices.

I append a table shewing the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the result :—

<i>Disease suspected.</i>			<i>No. of Specimens.</i>	<i>Result.</i>	
				<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Sputum	... Tuberculosis	...	72	...	65
Throat Swabs	... Diphtheria	...	940	...	794
Smears	... Gonorrhoea	...	1	—	1
Blood	... Enteric Fever	...	2	—	2

WATER ANALYSIS.

Four samples were taken and sent to the laboratory for chemical analysis and four for bacteriological examination.

MILK.

48 samples of milk were collected and submitted for chemical tests and bacteriological examination.

NUTRITION.

Diet sheets for children from six months to two years of age, shewing how new foods can be introduced into baby's diet as he gradually becomes able to deal with them, are given out at the Infant Welfare Centres, and alternative menus for each meal are also printed on the sheets.

Notifiable Diseases

PNEUMONIA.

The number of cases of pneumonia notified during the year was 112, an increase of 54 on the number notified during 1936. 42 cases were notified during the first quarter, 35 during the second, 6 during the third, and 29 during the fourth quarter of the year.

The number of deaths certified to be due to pneumonia (all forms) during the year under review was 35, an increase of 23 on the number certified to this cause during the previous year. This is equivalent to a death-rate of 1.0 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the district.

On examination of the death returns, it was found that of the 35 deaths certified to be due to this disease, 8, a percentage of 22.8, had not be notified.

All cases were visited by the Health Visitors, who, where they found it was needed, gave advice as to the nursing of the patients. Enquiries were also made into the financial position of the patients, and if they were found to be in necessitous circumstances, an official order for a daily supply of fresh milk was given.

SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet fever has not been so prevalent during the year under review as during the previous year. 240 cases were notified. This is a decrease of 200 cases on the number notified during the preceding year. The attack rate was 7.0 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the district as compared with 12.4 for the preceding year, and 2.8 for the year 1935.

The incidence of the disease was highest in the Pen-rhiwceiber Ward, where 93 cases occurred and 45 cases were notified in the Miskin Ward.

136 patients suffering from Scarlet Fever were removed to the Mountain Ash Isolation Hospital, and as there was no accommodation available one patient had to be removed to the Pontypridd Isolation Hospital, making a percentage of 57.0 of the cases notified removed to hospital.

The average duration of stay of patients treated for scarlet fever at the hospital was 31.6 days.

All patients removed to hospital recovered.

One death occurred from this disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases of diphtheria notified during the year was 193, an increase of 157 on the number notified during the year 1936. The attack rate was 5.6 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the district, an increase of 4.6 per 1,000 on the rate for the preceding year. The disease was of a severe type.

The incidence of the disease was highest in the Ynysybwl Ward, where it assumed epidemic form. 141 cases were notified in this ward. I visited the schools at Ynysybwl and took swabs from the throats of 620 children. As a result of the examination of the swabs 17, a percentage of 2.7, proved to be positive. The positive children were excluded from school and treated by their own doctors until they were found to be free from infection.

111 of the patients, a percentage of 57.5 of the number of cases notified, were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

The average period of stay at the hospital of patients suffering from diphtheria was 28.7 days.

Three deaths were certified to be due to diphtheria during the year under review, giving a case mortality of 1.5 per cent.

ERYSIPELAS.

25 cases of erysipelas were notified during the year under review, an increase of 13 on the number notified during the preceding year.

Six patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

One patient died.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

10 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified during the year, a decrease of one on the number notified during the preceding year. Seven of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths due to this disease during the year under review.

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious disease notified during the year under review :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>	
Scarlet Fever	240	136 *1	1	
Diphtheria	194	111	3	
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	7 †1	—	
Erysipelas	25	6	1	
Pneumonia	112	‡1	35	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	
Tuberculosis :—				
(a) Pulmonary ...	Males ...	17	—	5
	Females ...	16	—	10
	TOTAL ...	33	—	15
(b) Non-Pulmonary	Males ...	10	—	3
	Females ...	3	—	2
	TOTAL ...	13	—	5

* Case admitted to Pontypridd Isolation Hospital.

† Case admitted to Llwynypia Hospital.

‡ Case admitted to Central Homes, Pontypridd.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision Unim- paired	Vision Im- paired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
	Noti- fied	Treated					
		At home	In hospi'l				
TOTALS	1	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1937. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darran- las</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysy- bwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Cases removed to Hospital.</i>	
								<i>Isolation</i>	<i>Hospital</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	29	35	45	93	24	14	240	136 + 1 (Pontypridd)	
Diphtheria ...	10	2	2	13	26	141	194	111	
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	4	2	4	—	10	7 + 1 (Llwynypia)	
Erysipelas... ..	4	2	2	9	7	1	25	6	
Pneumonia ...	9	22	20	35	18	8	112	1 (Central Homes)	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	
TOTAL ...	52	61	73	152	80	164	582	—	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1937. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2 years</i>	<i>2 to 3 years</i>	<i>3 to 4 years</i>	<i>4 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 10 years</i>	<i>10 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 20 years</i>	<i>20 to 35 years</i>	<i>35 to 45 years</i>	<i>45 to 65 years</i>	<i>65 yrs. & over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever...	4	6	19	22	28	90	41	9	18	1	1	1	240
Diphtheria ...	—	4	6	12	12	99	46	6	8	1	—	—	194
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	—	—	10
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	14	4	25
Pneumonia ...	14	15	10	8	5	12	8	4	4	10	20	2	112
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total ...	20	25	35	42	45	202	96	19	38	18	35	7	582

Deaths from Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1937.

Diseases.	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 yrs. & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	10	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	7	6	35
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	4	4	4	—	15
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	5
Total	10	3	4	1	2	1	2	4	8	7	11	7	60

ANTITOXIN AND SERUM.

A sufficient supply of diphtheria antitoxin is always kept at the Public Health Offices. 192 phials of 8,000 units were supplied to the medical practitioners of the area during the year. A supply of concentrated Streptococcus Antitoxin is also kept at the offices, and is supplied to medical practitioners for use in cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia.

MEASLES.

Measles has not been prevalent during the year under review. Two deaths were certified to be due to this disease.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Whooping cough has been prevalent during the year, particularly during the first and second quarters of the year. Five deaths were certified to be due to this disease, three during the first quarter and two during the second quarter.

INFLUENZA.

Influenza was very prevalent during the first quarter of the year. 15 deaths were certified to be due to this disease. This gives a death-rate of 0.4 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the district.

DISINFECTION.

The homes of all sufferers from infectious diseases are, on the termination of the illness, or when patients are removed to hospital, disinfected by spraying with liquid disinfectants, or fumigated by formaldehyde gas. Infected bedding, clothing, etc., are removed to the Isolation Hospital and disinfected by a Thresh's Steam Disinfector. The number of houses disinfected, and of the articles treated at the steam disinfector, will be found in the summary of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors.

TUBERCULOSIS.

33 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (17 males and 16 females) were notified during the year under review, a decrease of 3 on the number notified during the previous year. 13 cases of other forms of tuberculosis (10 males and 3 females) were also notified as compared with 19 cases notified during 1936.

The number of deaths certified to be due to pulmonary tuberculosis during the year was 15 (5 males and 10 females). One of these cases, a percentage of 6.6, had not been notified. There were also 5 deaths (3 males and 2 females) certified to be due to other forms of tuberculosis, of whom 1, a percentage of 20, had not been notified.

All the patients are given a free supply of disinfectant, and when they leave home for sanatorium treatment, or when death occurs, the homes are disinfected.

The duties under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations are carried out by Miss Anne E. Wood, and the particulars as to the work she has done under these Regulations will be found on pages 35-38.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken with reference to tuberculous employees in the milk trade under these Regulations during the year under review.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. Section 172.

It was not necessary to take any action under the above-mentioned section during the year with reference to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

I append tables shewing the age and ward distribution of all cases notified, and the numbers treated at the various sanatoria :—

Pulmonary and Other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1937.

Ages.		WARDS														TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY	
		MALES.						FEMALES.									
		Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Males	Females
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
	15 to 20 years	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	
	20 to 25 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	1	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	1	1	1	—	1	5	1	2	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	3	1	3	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
	55 to 65 years	1	—	—	3	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	
65 years and over	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—		
TOTAL		4	1	3	7	1	1	17	3	3	4	3	—	3	16	5	10
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	2	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	
	20 to 25 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTAL		1	5	—	1	1	2	10	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	3	2



Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1937.

Name of Institution	W A R D S													
	MALES.							FEMALES.						
	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total
Pontsarn Hospital	3	1	—	2	—	—	6	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Sully Hospital	1	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ...	2	1	2	2	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kensington Hospital, Haverfordwest ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Glan Ely Hospital... ..	—	2	1	2	2	—	7	—	—	2	—	1	2	5
Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of Chest, Brompton, S.W.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
North Wales Sanatorium, Llangwyfan, Denbigh	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Highland Moors Hospital... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	5	5	8	4	—	29	—	3	3	1	2	3	12

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

<i>Premises.</i> (1)	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i> (2)	<i>Written Notices</i> (3)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	8	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	169	5	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	177	5	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>No. of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Re-medied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*				
Want of cleanliness	5	5	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ Unsuitable or Defective	—	—	—	—
{ Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to out-work and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
Total	7	7	—	—

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

<i>Nature of Work.</i>	<i>Instances</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel :—			
Making, &c.	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—
Household linen	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—
Cables and chains	—	—	—
Anchors and grapnels	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—
TOTAL	Nil	Nil	Nil

R. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

14th June, 1938.

